



ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 23, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 18 totaled an estimated 18.3 billion ton-miles, 5.6 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 739 billion ton-miles, 0.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 18 totaled 449,571 cars, 8.1 percent below 1979, and 0.4 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 9.2 percent in the East, 3.8 percent in the South, and 9.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down; however, coal loadings were up 1,585 cars, or 1.4 percent; and grain traffic increased by 2,953 cars, or 9.4 percent. Twelve of the groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 11 totaled 33,289 cars, down 9.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 58,897 trailers and/or containers, 9.3 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of the year was 1,315,097 cars, 10.7 percent lower than last year, and 2,390,112 trailers and/or containers, down 8.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/18/80:

	Loadings in Week ended October 18, 1980		Change from Corresponding Week 1979			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	34,274	I	2,953	9.4	D	605	1.7
Other farm products	5,929	D	295	4.7	D	6	0.1
Metallic ores	26,620	D	9,965	27.2	I	1,400	5.6
Coal	115,828	I	1,585	1.4	D	134	0.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,258	D	2,490	14.0	D	154	1.0
Nonmetallic minerals	14,771	D	1,086	6.8	D	2,875	16.3
Grain mill products	16,666	D	1,119	6.3	D	471	2.7
Food and kindred products	18,036	D	1,604	8.2	I	47	0.3
Primary forest products	19,500	D	2,523	11.5	D	520	2.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	9,194	D	2,135	18.8	I	745	8.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,411	D	1,562	7.4	I	165	0.9
Chemicals and allied products	27,647	D	709	2.5	D	1,039	3.6
Petroleum products	5,667	D	534	8.6	D	135	2.3
Stone, clay and glass products	15,476	D	3,697	19.3	D	200	1.3
Coke	5,173	D	1,556	23.1	I	527	11.3
Metals and products	13,812	D	4,756	25.6	D	880	6.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,020	D	3,312	14.8	I	317	1.7
Waste and scrap materials	13,344	D	511	3.7	I	409	3.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	11,174	D	2,042	15.5	D	185	1.6
All other carloads	42,526	D	4,325	9.2	I	1,491	3.6
LCL traffic	245	D	143	36.9	I	15	6.5
Total Cars Loaded	449,571	D	39,826	8.1	D	2,088	0.4
Corresponding week of 1979	489,397						
	<u>1980</u>		<u>1979</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>Change</u>	
Total Cars Loaded (42 weeks)	18,303,336		19,375,051		D	5.5	
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):							
41 weeks cumulative	720.6		715.2		I	0.8	
Week ended October 18	<u>18.3</u>		<u>19.4</u>		<u>D</u>	<u>5.6</u>	
42 weeks cumulative	738.9		734.5		I	0.6	